

D I V I N E
H Y M N S
ATTEMPTED IN
EASY LANGUAGE
FOR THE USE OF
C H I L D R E N.

Designed as an APPENDIX
To Dr. Watts's DIVINE SONGS.

By ROWLAND HILL, M. A.

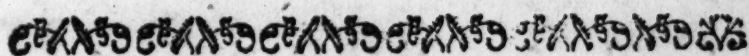
This once believ'd, 'twere logic misapplied
To prove a consequence by none denied,
That we are bound to cast the minds of youth
Betimes into the mould of heavenly truth;
That taught of God they may indeed be wise,
Nor ignorantly wand'ring miss the skies.

COOPER.

L O N D O N.

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MDCCXC.



P R E F A C E.

THE public have given their almost universal sanction to the institution of the Sunday Schools; I know but one pretended argument against them. 'They are calculated to make the common people wiser than they need be.' This sentiment, the friend of liberty abhors: surely we cannot do less for our indigent fellow-creatures, than to enable them to read their mother tongue. It were cruel indeed, to deny them so small a scope for the expansion of their minds, since many a noble disposition may be buried in oblivion, and lost to society by a doctrine so narrow and unwise.

The friends of religion, next appear against the proposition, by asking the question, If reading the scriptures can be prejudicial to the poor? The question answers itself, while the

friends of revelation in general, are found among the most serious and devout; and the advocates for deism among the most dissolute and profane.

For the purpose of promoting these good institutions, the following hymns are committed to the press: they were at first written for such children as commenced my more immediate charge on the footing of such establishments; but supposing the design might be made more generally useful, I have attempted such a stile of sentiment and expression, as may render my little book not less acceptable to children of a superior description; nor should I ventured to have *published* what I have now *printed*, had not almost all of them been revised and corrected, by one whom I am not permitted to mention, but whose name and character as a poet, would do the highest credit to this little publication.

Notwithstanding the assistance received from such an excellent corrector,

P R E F A C E.

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rector, I have not sufficient vanity to suppose, that I can even equal, much less excel the songs for children already written by Dr. Watts. These have done abundance of good, and I doubt not will continue to exist as a very useful production, while these hymns now presented to the public, after some small editions, will be buried in oblivion. Still as a living testimony may be received in preference to such as are now only known by their labours of love, this small tender of my services for the good of children, can never be deemed any great intrusion on the public. Mr. Janeway's Token for Children, is another book highly to be recommended: therein the deformities of sin, and the realities of religion are beautifully exemplified. Out of the mouth of babes and sucklings, God can ordain strength, and promote his glory.

Though other books may deserve the like commendation, yet that not

being my plan, I would leave each parent, or guardian to choose its own author; only reminding them, that a present of a book to a child is wonderfully interesting. The first present I ever remember to have received, was Dr. Watts's Songs for Children: these I read with attention, from the idea that I read them out of my own book; and even in those early days, the sound of the words left a secret something upon my mind that was pleasant, profitable, and good. My design therefore is not to supplant, but to add an appendix to that valuable publication.

Rhyme and metre are the best helps for the understanding of a child; a hymn should not be long, and poetry for children should be very simple and plain, yet somewhat tuneful and exact.

I know that no one should presume upon poetry without a fine judgment and rich fancy. I thought however, that less of these requisites might
make

make me a passable author for children.

I was first excited to this little effort in verse, by reading some of the pious instructions given to children in the last hymn book, lately published among the brethren, more generally known by the name of Moravians: from them I think I have borrowed, or put into more regular metre, about six or seven of these hymns*, and as fancy led me, I composed the rest†.

Repentance towards God, and faith towards our LORD JESUS CHRIST, are the first principles of real religion. I have endeavoured to lead the minds of children to an ab-

* I am happy to take this opportunity, thus far to confess my plagiarism, for the sake of mentioning with respect, the good people from whom I have ventured to borrow; who have lately done themselves much honour in giving up a mode of expression that was puerile and improper; and though comparatively, but few of their hymns are composed in a style likely to please the ear of the refined poet, yet they are well calculated to warm and profit the heart of the devoted christian.

† Hymn 24, and 37, were also added by the gentlemen that corrected the publication.

abhorrence of sin, and at the same time have dwelt much upon the birth, example, and salvation of the LORD JESUS, as the only remedy for the dreadful disease. His name should be made the burden of almost every song that is put into the hands of a child.

Should this first attempt be acceptable to the public, I will not say but in a few weeks hence, it may be followed with another. This will be somewhat in the line of narrative ; I shall then take the liberty to drop a few hints to parents and instructors of children.

At present, I only observe that these hymns will be but of little use, if merely learnt by rote, without being accompanied with good advice, and a familiar explanation. That a gracious God would vouchsafe his blessings on this attempt, for the good of the rising generation is my sincere prayer.

R. H.

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DIVINE HYMNS

FOR

CHILDREN.

HYMN I.

A SABBATH DAY'S HYMN.

Remember the Sabbath-day, to keep it holy,
EXOD. XX. 8.

I.

JESUS our holy LORD,
Thy name we join to sing,
Who didst on this glad day
Complete salvation bring.

We bless the LORD, who from the grave
Arose again lost man to save.

II.

Thro' mercy we are call'd,
Tho' young in years, to praise
The conquests of thy love,
The riches of thy grace.

O may our hearts in thee rejoice,
And take thee as our only choice!

B

III.

In humble love we wait
To know thy righteous will;
Instruct our feeble minds
To be obedient still.
O what a day of love and grace,
To hear of CHRIST, and sing his praise!

IV.

Dear LORD, forgive the child
That plays, and sins away
The mercies we enjoy
On this most blessed day.
For here we love, and serve the LORD,
And sing his praise, and hear his word.

V.

Thro' thy redeeming blood,
Dear Savior, set us free;
And by thy Spirit's grace,
O let us live to thee.
Then take us, LORD, when we shall die,
To dwell with thee, above the sky.

FOR CHILDREN.

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H Y M N II.

A MORNING HYMN.

Take heed that ye despise not one of these little ones; for I say unto you, that in heaven their Angels do always behold the face of my Father, which is in heaven. MATT. xviii. 10.

I.

ARISE, my soul, and bless the LORD;
The guard of thine unguarded hours:
His watchful eye, and tender heart
Are thine, with all their gracious powers.

II.

While helpless on my bed I rest
From all my little toil and pains,
Thy guardian Angels round me stand;
Thy faithful arm my life sustains.

III.

And shall such guardian Angels wait
On a poor child that looks to thee?
What mercy, LORD! what love and grace,
That Angels should attend on me!

IV.

When thou, dear Savior, wast a child,
 Thou, too, like us, hadst need of rest;
 And faithful Cherubs watch'd their God,
 While on his virgin-mother's breast.

V.

O may I have their presence near,
 But God my Savior nearer still:
 Rejoice that such dear spirits wait
 To prompt me to obey thy will.

HYMN III.

An EVENING HYMN.

*I will both lay me down in peace, and sleep:
 for thou, LORD, only makest me dwell in
 safety. PSALM iv. 8.*

I.

ONCE more, dear LORD, a feeble child
 Presumes to bless thy sacred name.
 My lisping notes thou wilt receive,
 Nor put my poor attempts to shame.

II.

Thy loving heart has led me on
 Thro' all the dangers of the day:
 From that perpetual spring of love;
 Thou dost perpetual love display.

FOR CHILDREN.

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III.

From this day's sin, I humbly crave
Redemption thro' the Savior's blood;
All other pleas I gladly wave,
No other way can lead to God.

IV.

My holy Savior and my God,
Come manifest thy love to me;
And e'er my eyes be clos'd in sleep,
O may I close the day with thee.

H Y M N IV.

*My Son give me thine Heart. PROV.
xxiii. 26.*

I.

O What a voice of tender love
Does JESUS whisper from above!
How rich the grace, that he should say
"Give me thy heart, make no delay!"

II.

Grant, JESUS, to a sinful child,
To feel thy Spirit meek and mild,
That teaches me to know thy voice,
And bids me in thy love rejoice.

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III.

My holy Savior and my God,
Purchas'd by thy redeeming blood,
I would my heart to thee resign,
That I may be for ever thine.

IV.

How happy must my spirit be,
While happy made, dear LORD, in thee!
Thou art my heav'n, and I shall prove
Eternal glory in thy love.

H Y M N V.

CHILDREN SINGING HOSANNA IN THE
TEMPLE.

The chief priests and scribes saw the wonderful things that CHRIST did, and the children crying in the temple, and saying, Hosanna to the son of David! MATT. xxi. 15.

I.

DEAR LORD, we are told
In Sion were found,
Poor children of old
Thy praise to resound;

FOR CHILDREN.

7

Their lovely example,
We children obey,
And now in thy Temple
We praise and we pray.

II.

Like them, holy LORD,
We'll crown thee with praise,
We'll talk of thy word,
And sing of thy grace.
All praises to JESUS
Our LORD and our GOD,
Who came to release us,
By shedding his blood.

III

Altho' some complain'd,
Rebuking the song;
They were not restrain'd,
But follow'd along,
Hosannas loud singing
Again and again,
To JESUS for bringing
Salvation to men.

IV.

We too will repeat
Hosannas of praise;
We'll lie at thy feet
And tell of thy grace:

8 DIVINE HYMNS

Hail! son of King David,
And King David's LORD,
By thee we are saved
Thy name be ador'd.

H Y M N VI.

A CHILD'S CONFESSION TO BE SAID WHEN
SORRY FOR A SIN NEWLY COMMITTED.

*I acknowledge my sin unto thee, and mine
iniquity have I not hid: I said, I will con-
fess my transgressions unto the LORD;
and thou forgavest the iniquity of my sin.*
PSALM xxxii. 5.

I.

O What a wretched heart have I,
How full of sin and shame!
How justly I deserve to lie
In one eternal flame!

II.

Dear JESUS, can a child so vile
Be number'd with thy own?
No grace but thine can reconcile,
No blood but thine atone.

III.

In that most precious fountain, cleanse
My crimson guilt away,
And make me grieve for that offence
Which I have done to-day.

FOR CHILDREN.

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IV.

When thou, dear JESUS, wast a child,
Thou didst not sin like me:
No sinful words thy lips defil'd;
No faults appear'd in thee.

V.

Thou wast more spotless than a dove,
More harmless than a lamb;
Obedient, humble full of love,
And never once to blame.

VI.

But I am proud, and ever prone
From duty's path to start:
I am not meek, but oft have shewn
The vileness of my heart.

VII.

Imprint thine image on my breast,
Thine Holy Spirit give;
A mind, with true repentance blest,
That I may turn and live.



10 DIVINE HYMNS

HYMN VII.

ANOTHER PENITENTIAL HYMN.

*Wash me thoroughly from mine iniquity, and
cleanse me from my sin, for I acknowledge
my transgressions: and my sin is ever before
me. PSALM li. 2, 3.*

I.

O LORD forgive a sinful child
Whose heart is all unclean:
How base am I, and how defil'd
By the vile work of sin!

II.

How justly might thine anger rise,
And sink me down to Hell,
To feel the worm that never dies,
In endless flames to dwell!

III.

O change this stubborn heart of mine,
And make me pure within;
Still manifest thy love divine,
And save me from my sin.

FOR CHILDREN.

11

IV.

Stubborn, untractable, and wild,
Is my obdurate heart ;
O LORD, to me, thy chaste, thy mild,
Thy holy mind impart.

V.

Then will I make redeeming love,
My daily, nightly song !
And joys like theirs who sing above,
Shall tune an infant's tongue.

H Y M N VIII.

THE BLESSINGS OF A GODLY EDUCATION.

*I will instruct thee, and teach thee in the way
which thou shalt go : I will guide thee with
mine eye. PSALM xxxii. 8.*

I.

HAPPY the children who betimes
Have learnt to know the LORD.
Who thro' his grace escape the crimes
Forbidden in his word.

II.

Should they be early hence remov'd,
He will their souls receive ;
For they whom JESUS here hath lov'd
With him shall ever live.

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III.

The Savior whom they trusted here,
Shall wipe their tears away ;
No night of darkness shall be there,
But one eternal day.

IV.

May we with those in bliss, O LORD,
For ever number'd be:
Taught by thy Spirit, and thy word,
To live alone to thee.

V.

Come, holy LORD, and may each heart,
Thy blessed temple prove ;
Thy heavenly likeness now impart,
And rule us all by love.

H Y M N IX.

THANKSGIVING FOR EARLY INSTRUCTION.

*From a child thou hast known the holy scriptures
which are able to make thee wise unto sal-
vation. 2 TIM. iii. 15.*

I.

WHAT children like us have such
cause to be glad!
What children such means of instruction
have had!
Such meetings to hear and to sing of the Lord,
While many know nothing of God and
his word.

FOR CHILDREN. 13

II.

We hear how our Maker from heaven
came down,
And willingly left for lost sinners his throne:
Then taking our nature, became a poor
child,
And us by his suff'rings to God reconcil'd.

III.

O myst'ry of godliness, wonder of grace!
May we without ceasing adore him and
praise:
May we all understand what a Savior we have,
And trust him, and love him, and on him
believe.

H Y M N X.

THE SAME.

Jesus said unto Peter, Feed my lambs.

JOHN XXI. 15.

I.

HOLY LORD, behold I stand
Thankful for thy kind commad,
That thy little lambs may be
Fed and disciplin'd for thee.

C

II.

Blessings, LORD, vouchsafe to give,
On the teaching I receive:
Make ev'n me a child of thine,
Sweetly led by love divine.

III.

As the potter's yielding clay,
Does the potter's will obey;
So may I submissive prove,
Yeilding to be rul'd by love.

IV.

Stubborn tempers, sulky pride,
Prove that Satan is my guide:
Lamb of GOD, thy love impart,
Sway by love my froward heart.

V.

Holy Shepherd of thy sheep,
Me in safety kindly keep;
Make me truly meek and mild,
All my days a little child.



H Y M N XI.

A CHILD'S THANKSGIVING FOR GOOD PARENTS.

*When Israel was a child then I loved him,
Hosea xi. 1.*

I.

BORN a poor sinful helpless babe;
Born but to weep, and groan, and die;
Ne'er had I liv'd to bless thy name,
Had not thy pity, LORD, been nigh.

II.

Beasts that can graze around the field,
Birds that can take the wing and fly;
Yea, every insect thou hast made,
Could better help themselves than I.

III.

Ne'er had I known a Father's care,
Nor rested on a Mother's breast,
Had not thy providential love,
With tenderness their hearts possess'd.

IV.

Their watchful care still leads me on :
 From their kind hand I still receive
 The raiment that I daily wear,
 The food on which I daily live.

V.

Their mild correction for each fault,
 Their kind instruction for my good ;
 Are all design'd in love to bring,
 My wandering spirit near to God.

VI.

O holy Savior, may that day
 Of future love and grace appear,
 In which my parents both shall reap
 The harvest of their faithful care.

HYMN XII.

AGAINST A BAD EXAMPLE.

*Apply thine heart unto instruction, and thine
 ears to the words of knowledge. PROV. xxiii. 12.*

I.

DEAR Savior, we praise
 Thy kindness and grace,
 That we are instructed to walk in thy ways.

II.

Direct us to know
The paths we should go,
Turn us wide from the road that would lead
us to woe.

III.

Let others proclaim
Their sin and their shame :
But teach us a wiser and happier aim.

IV.

If sinners entice,
May our courage suffice
To renounce the allurements of pleasure
and vice.

V.

Still pity them, LORD,
And send them thy word ;
Thy mercy to save them vouchsafe to afford.

VI.

O may we resign
Ourselves to be thine ;
Come save, and redeem us, by mercy divine.

HYMN XIII.

A CHILD'S HYMN ON EARLY DEDICATION
TO GOD IN HOLY BAPTISM.

*Thou wast my hope when I hanged yet on my
mother's breast.* PSALM xxii. 9.

I.

MY parents gave me, LORD,
Into thy gracious care,
That so their sinful child
Might thy compassion share :
Their plea for me was JESU'S blood,
That I might be brought near to God.

II.

All the poor helpless babes
In Israel born of old ;
Israel's dear Shepherd took
As lambs into his fold :
No time shall change the Shepherd's will,
He lov'd us then, and loves us still.

III.

Under the milder reign
Of our Redeemer's grace,
Believers children still
Are call'd a holy race :

A holy race, O may we be,
In time and in eternity !

IV.

Thus given up to thee,
When but a tender child,
May I in mind and will,
To thee be reconcil'd :
Be thou my all, in life and death,
And save me to my latest breath.

V.

So shall a sinner born
A child and heir of Hell,
Thro' thy atoning blood
Of thy salvation tell :
O give me grace, O set me free !
That I may live and die to thee.

VI.

That mercy now I seek,
Thro' a Redeemer's blood,
Which then my parents sought
Giving me up to God ;
To their petitions for me then,
I gladly answer now, *Amen.*



HYMN XIV.

ON THE BIRTH AND CHILDHOOD OF THE
LORD JESUS CHRIST.

*She brought forth her first-born son, and
wrapped him in swaddling clothes, and laid
him in a manger, because there was no room
for them in the inn. LUKE ii. 7.*

I.

COME children and trace
The mercy and grace,
Our JESUS's birth for poor sinners displays.

II.

In Bethlehem, a town
Of humble renown, (her son.
A Virgin brought forth, and the LORD was

III.

On straw or on hay,
The holy child lay, (way.
Who came from above to teach sinners the

FOR CHILDREN. 21

IV.

Here Angels ador'd
This wonderful LORD : (word.
And such are the wonders that shine in his

V.

In heart and in mind,
Submissive and kind,
Himself to his parents the Savior resign'd.

VI.

Tho' CHRIST is our GOD,
He came with his blood
To bless us, and fill us with infinite good.

VII.

Dear children, we pray
On this happy day,
That you his example may humbly obey.

VIII.

Like CHRIST, when a child,
Be lowly and mild,
And be to his heavenly will reconcil'd.



HYMN XV.

PRAISE TO JESUS FOR BEING A CHILD.

*Thou shalt call his name JESUS, for he shall
save his people from their sins, MATT. i. 21.*

I

LORD JESUS, we bless thee for being a
child;

That we to thy Father might be reconcil'd.
We thank thee for suffering and dying in
pain,

That we thro' thy passion might heaven
obtain.

II

We thank thee that thou wilt poor children
permit,

To love thee, and bless thee, and lie at thy feet:
That thou, when they seek thee, art gra-
ciously near,

And when they would praise thee, art ready
to hear.

FOR CHILDREN.

23

III.

Thou wilt be our Savior, Redeemer, and friend:

O may we seek after thy love to the end!

Be humble, and lowly, obedient to thee;

As children of thine are expected to be.

H Y M N XVI.

SINS OF CHILDREN CORRECTED.

*Behold, the fear of the LORD, that is wisdom
and to depart from evil is understanding.*
JOB xxviii. 28.

I.

SOME children take GOD's name in vain,
And early learn to curse, and swear.
The tongues that curse GOD's sacred name,
The worm that never dies shall tear.

II.

Some children sport away the time
That others use to praise and pray.
Vengeance their footsteps shall pursue,
That hallow not GOD's sabbath-day.

III.

Some children, cruel and unkind,
To parents disobedient prove.
How can such children hope to see
The God that is the God of love !

IV.

Some children, slow to learn the truth,
Are cunning yet, and learn to steal :
But God, who hates their thievish ways,
Shall all their secret sins reveal.

V.

Some children, by old Satan taught,
Can dare to use the liar's tongue ;
Such children must to Satan go,
To such eternal flames belong.

VII.

Two sinners God's just vengeance felt
For telling one presumptuous lie : *
Dear children learn to dread his wrath,
Lest you should also sin and die.

* Here children are requested to read how Ananias
and Saphira were struck dead for telling a lie, Acts
to verse 12.

VII.

Some children, thro' vile passion, use
 Abusive words, and angry blows:
 But anger is the horrid spring
 From whence the stream of murder flows.

VIII.

Children in humble poverty,
 Should ne'er their honest labour dread:
 For they that work not, soon shall want
 Their raiment, and their daily bread.

IX.

Children, be wise, and fly to CHRIST,
 And know your visitation-day:
 'Tis he can cleanse and pardon too,
 And lead you in his heav'nly way.

H Y M N XVII.

THE SAME.

*I have no greater joy than to hear that my
 children walk in truth.* 3 JOHN 4.

I.

HAPPY the child that fears the LORD,
 That loves his ways, and reads his word,
 Instructed early in his praise,
 Who pardons sin, and saves by grace.

D

II.

But, LORD, how many children rise
T' oppose the power that rules the skies;
Tho' even children find a Hell,
Who, willful, to the last rebel.

III.

The little wretch, whose lying tongue
Can whisper to another's wrong;
Will other mischiefs quickly dare,
And soon be found to curse and swear.

IV.

Neglect of Sabbaths next ensues;
The days that children most abuse;
Foolishly apt to slight the LORD,
His worship, and his holy word.

V.

Anger proclaims a child to be
At enmity, dear LORD, with thee;
How strange that pride should e'er be found,
Where sin, and shame, so much abound!

VI.

Come, holy Savior, from above,
And prove thyself the God of love;
Save us from these, and ev'ry sin,
And let thy grace prevail within.

H Y M N XVIII.

THE BLESSING OF A CHILD-LIKE SPIRIT.

*Verily I say unto you, except ye be converted,
and become as little children, ye shall
not enter into the kingdom of heaven.*
MATT. xviii. 3.

I.

SEE the condescending LORD
Own the little infant race;
Bids us note them in his word,
Emblems of his heavenly grace.

II.

Copies of the Savior's life,
Holy LORD, may we appear;
Sav'd from anger, and from strife,
Won by love, and rul'd by fear.

III.

Like the holy Virgin's child,
Meek and lowly may we be,
Gentle, innocent and mild,
Clothed with humility.

IV.

Holy peace his soul possess,
 Heavenly truth adorn'd his words :
 Let thy little tribes be blest
 With a nature like the LORD's.

V.

Bid us dread the liar's tongue,
 Dread the vile dissembler's ways,
 Lambs that to the LORD belong,
 Rul'd by love, and sav'd by Grace.

HYMN XIX.

CHRIST IN THE TEMPLE.

*They found CHRIST in the temple, sitting in
 the midst of the doctors, both hearing them,
 and asking them questions. LUKE ii. 46.*

I.

BRIGHT were the beams of love divine,
 When GOD's own Son an infant came;
 And all his actions as he grew,
 Our growing admiration claim.

II.

To his own Temple, **JESUS** went
Obedient at his parents side;
Lo, what a wond'rous sight is here!
That God should take a human guide.

III.

Twelve years his age, divinely led,
He came to do his Father's will:
Tho' God himself, for ever blest'd,
He would his Father's law fulfil.

IV.

While reason staggers at the sight,
Faith can believe, and love adore:
Nor earth, nor heav'n itself, had seen
Such condescending love before!

V.

There, clad like us, **JEHOVAH** sat
Among the tribes of Israel's race:
Each elder wonder'd whence he learn'd
Such words of wisdom, and of grace.

VI.

Far more than man, tho' yet a child,
His Deity divinely shone:
He fill'd his Father's Temple well;
As well he fills his Father's throne.

VI.

Then, holy Savior, may we seek,
 As we in years and stature grow,
 To follow thee the living way,
 And do thy Father's will below.

VII.

To Zion, as thy parents led
 Thine infant footsteps in the way;
 May us our parents also lead,
 And we with willing feet obey.

H Y M N XX.

CHILD'S PRAYER TO GOD THE HOLY
 SPIRIT.

*ist me not away from thy presence, and take
 not thy Holy Spirit from me. PSALM li. 11.*

I.

COME, Holy Ghost, the Comforter,
 Whom JESUS sends from heav'n,
 O comfort us thy children here,
 And shew our sins forgiv'n.

II.

Thou didst in forms of fiery tongues,
On thine Apostles rest;
Our lips inspire to sing new songs,
And dwell in ev'ry breast.

III.

O come, and in our hearts reside;
Let them thy temples prove,
Nor let our naughtiness and pride,
Provoke thee to remove.

IV.

But with thy gracious pow'r descend,
And all our sins subdue;
O bid us to thy sceptre bend,
And form our souls anew.

V.

Where God the Spirit is a guest,
All graces there abound;
Love, joy, and peace, make calm the breast,
And thanks and praise resound.



HYMN XXI.

BLESSINGS FOR EARLY INSTRUCTION.

*Train up a Child in the way he should go,
and when he is old he will not depart
from it. PROV. xxii. 6.*

I.

BEHOLD, dear LORD, an infant race,
Lift up the voice of humble praise;
We sing the mercies thou hast shown,
The love reveal'd thro' CHRIST, thy Son.

II.

We bless thy name, that here we stand
To praise thee on this happy land;
Where faithful ministers of thine
Nourish our souls with truth divine.

III.

We bless thee for our bibles giv'n,
To teach lost man the way to heav'n;
Sow thou the seed, and grant increase,
And fill our hearts with truth and peace.

FOR CHILDREN. 33

IV.

We bless thee for the day of rest,
The day above all others blest ;
We toil not then, nor buy, nor sell,
But sing the love that saves from Hell.

V.

We bless thee for the tender care
Which at our parents hands we share ;
O may our glad obedience prove,
How much we prize them for their love.

VI.

Be thou their teacher, LORD, we pray,
Whose parents heed not how they stray,
But let their hapless children go
The way that leads to endless woe.

VII.

Great are thy mercies, God of love,
O lead us on to thrones above ;
There dwell the blessed of our race,
Singing the triumphs of thy grace !



HYMN XXII.

A PRAYER FOR A GRACIOUS MIND.

Blessed are the poor in spirit, for theirs is the kingdom of God. MATT. v. 3.

I.

DEAR JESUS, let an infant claim
The favor to adore thy name;
Thou wast so meek, that babes might be
Encourag'd to draw near to thee.

II.

My gracious Savior, I believe
Thou canst a little child receive:
Thy tender love for us is free,
And why not love poor sinful me?

III. •

Then to a child, dear LORD, impart
A humble, meek, and lowly heart:
O cleanse me by thy precious blood,
And fill me with the love of God.

IV.

Tho' oft I sin, yet save me still,
 And make me love thy sacred will;
 Each day prepare me by thy grace
 To meet thee, and behold thy face.

H Y M N XXIII.

A CHILD'S PRAYER WHEN UNDER
AFFLICTION.

*Whom the LORD loveth, he chasteneth, and
 scourgeth every son whom he receiveth.*
 HEB. xii. 6.

I-

THY lambs, dear Shepherd, that are weak,
 Are thy peculiar care;
 'Tis thine in judgment to afflict,
 And thine in love to spare.

II.

Since all the chastisement I feel
 Is from thy love alone:
 Let not one murmuring thought arise,
 But may thy will be done.

III.

Tho' young in years, yet O how oft
 Have I a rebel been!
 My punishment, dear LORD, is mild,
 Nor equals half my sin.

IV.

Then bid me blush with holy shame,
 And mourn before my LORD:
 That I have liv'd to thee no more,
 No more obey'd thy word.

H Y M N XXIV.

A HYMN FOR A CHILD THAT HAS
 UNGODLY PARENTS.

*If a son seeth all his father's sins which he hath
 done, and considereth, and doeth not such li e,
 he shall not die for the iniquity of his father,
 he shall surely live. EZEK. xviii. 14, 18.*

I.

HOW happy are those little ones,
 Whose parents fear the LORD,
 And shew their daughters, and their sons
 The treasures of his word.

II.

Instructed, not at school alone,
But at their home beside:
With quicker pace they travel on,
And never want a guide.

III.

I know that scripture tells me true,
There is a place of woe,
(My parents! I am pain'd for you)
To which the careless go.

IV.

O LORD, who caus'st babes to see,
And leav'st the antient blind,
Their case, who being gave to me,
Sits heavy on my mind.

V.

Must we, and shall we, when the date
Of this short life is o'er,
Be fix'd in such a diff'rent state,
And meet in love no more?

VI.

Forbid it, LORD, and change a pray'r
In trembling hope preferr'd,
To praise, and thank, for saving care
And supplication heard.

E

HYMN XXV.

INSTRUCTIONS FROM THE SUFFERINGS
OF CHRIST.

*Come, ye children, hearken unto me: I will
teach you the fear of the LORD. PSALM
xxxiv. 11.*

I.

COME hither, dear children, and learn
that your sin,
The reason of JESUS' affliction hath been :
More anguish he suffer'd, than tongue can
express,
For you, sweating blood in his bitter
distress.

II.

While others were sleeping, for you he still
pray'd,
For you he was basely by Judas betray'd;
Men cruels hell, next to seize on him came
Who led him away, while as meek as
lamb.

III.

They spit on his face, then pluck'd off the
hair;
And scourg'd him repeatedly, stripping
him bare:
They platted sharp thorns, which they fix'd
on his head:
His brow and his body, thus equally bled.

IV.

At last, on his shoulders, already in pain,
They gave the Redeemer his cross to
sustain;
Then nail'd him on high, on the terrible
tree,
When he purchas'd a pardon for you and
for me.

V.

Fall down then, ye children, and pray at
his feet;
His death, and his suffering, O never forget!
For all who believe on him, surely shall
know
What bountiful blessings the LORD can
bestow.

HYMN XXVI.

A PRAYER FOR A CHILD-LIKE SPIRIT.

My soul is even as a weaned Child. PSALM
CXXXI. 2.

I.

AS a little weaned child,
Holy Savior, may I be ;
Humble, teachable, and mild,
Altogether like to thee.

II.

While King David was a man,
Still he pray'd to be a child :
And King David's Savior, can
Make me thus divinely mild.

III.

When King David was a King :
While he sat on Israel's throne,
He was not too proud to sing,
Praises to the LORD alone.

IV.

Surely then a child like me,
Never can be proud in heart :
LORD, thy grace is rich and free,
Grace like his to me impart.

V.

Give to me such heav'nly love,
As thou didst to Israel's King;
Then, where David sings above,
I e'er long shall also sing.

H Y M N XXVII.

FOR A NEW HEART.

A new heart will I give them. EZEK.
xxxvi. 26.

I.

WITH artless song, and simple lays,
We bring the tribute of our praise,
To JESUS CHRIST, the GOD of heav'n,
For all his mercies richly giv'n.

II.

He spoke the word, and bade us live;
All praise be his that we can give:
All other lords may we disown,
And live henceforth to him alone.

III.

Evil within our hearts is found,
And outward snares our paths surround :
Alas ! and what can children do
'Gainst outward foes, and inward too.

IV.

Dear JESUS, thou hast shed thy blood
To bring us rebels near to God :
That even babes by strength of thine,
Might gain the victory divine.

V.

On us employ thy gracious power ;
Change us and change us every hour ;
Till all our joy be in the LORD,
In prayer, in praise, and in his word.

VI.

Our fallen spirits thus renew'd,
Our enemies shall be subdu'd :
And while we wear the crown of grace,
To thee alone shall be the praise.



H Y M N XXVIII.

CHILDRENS ADORATION OF JESUS CHRIST.

*Out of the mouth of babes and sucklings, thou
hast perfected praise. MATT. xxi. 16.*

I.

HOLY JESUS, GOD of grace,
Object of eternal praise:
Souls that die no more above,
Sing thine everlasting love.

II

Heav'nly fight when children join,
Tutor'd by thy love divine,
Angel-like to shout and sing
Loud hosannas to their King.

III.

Little children thus ador'd:
In Jerusalem, the LORD
Sought his temple, left their plays,
Glad to sing the SAVIOR's praise.

IV.

O how pleasant thus to see,
 Babes and sucklings worship thee:
 Praising all with one accord,
 David's son, and David's LORD.

V.

O be our delight the same
 In his courts, to praise his name;
 They, who here extol his love,
 Soon shall sing with those above.

H Y M N XXIX.

A PRAYER FOR CHILDREN FOR A GOOD
 LIFE AND BEHAVIOR.

*Shew me thy ways, O LORD; teach me thy
 paths. PSALM XXV. 4.*

I

JESUS LORD, we look to thee,
 Meek and humble may we be:
 Pride and anger put away,
 Love thee dearer day by day.

II.

May we hate a lying tongue,
Never seek another's wrong;
From all paths of fraud abstain,
Leading to eternal pain.

III.

Teach us, for our friends to pray,
And our parents to obey;
Richest blessings from above,
Give them for their tender love.

IV.

May we find the sweets of prayer,
Sweeter than our pastimes are;
Love the Sabbath, and the place
Where we learn to seek thy face.

V.

Thou didst once our nature take,
Born a child, for sinners sake:
May we while we live below,
In thy lovely likeness grow.

VI.

Cleanse our hearts, our sins forgive,
Form us new, that we may live,
Live to love thee, live to rise,
To thy Temple in the skies.

HYMN XXX.

CHRIST'S CARE FOR HIS LAMBS.

He shall feed his flock like a shepherd : he shall gather his lambs with his arm, and carry them in his bosom, and shall gently lead those that are with young. Isa. xl. 11.

I.

LET praise to our Shepherd begin,
 Who tenderly makes us his care,
 Who came to redeem us from sin,
 And guard us from every snare :
 His pastoral love we adore
 Who clasps in so dear an embrace,
 The souls that his mercy implore,
 To save them by infinite grace.

II.

Nor shall the poor lambs of his fold
 Want pasture, or clear running stream,
 Or shadow of sheltering rock,
 Or warmth of enlivening beam :
 He too, in his bosom will bear
 The weary that pants for his rest,
 No lamb of them all but shall share
 A heaven of love in his breast.

III.

Then helpless and weak as we are,
O let us for ever abide
Close under the eye of his care,
Fed all the day long at his side;
He will not a moment depart,
O why should we wander away,
Or grieve his compassionate heart,
We sure shall be harm'd if we stray!

H Y M N XXXI.

THE BLESSING OF A MERCIFUL DISPOSITION.

*Blessed are the merciful, for they shall obtain
mercy. MATT. v. 7.*

I.

SWEET it is to see a child,
Tender, merciful, and mild:
Ever ready to perform
Acts of mercy to a worm:
Grieving that the world should be,
Thus a scene of misery:
Scene in which the creatures groan
For transgressions not their own.

II.

If the creatures must be slain,
 Thankless sinners to sustain,
 Such a child methinks will cry,
 Treat them gently when they die:
 Spare them while they yield their breath,
 Double not the pains of death:
 Strike them not at such a time,
 God accounts the stroke a crime.

III.

God is love, and never can
 Love or bless a cruel man:
 Mercy rules in ev'ry breast,
 Where his spirit deigns to rest.
 We ourselves to mercy owe
 Our escape from endless woe:
 And the merciless in mind,
 Shall themselves no mercy find



H Y M N XXXII.

ON FAMILY LOVE.

*My little children, let us not love in word,
neither in tongue, but in deed and in truth,*
I JOHN iii. 18.

I.

HOW charming and pleasant to see
A family dwelling in love,
Where brothers and sisters agree,
All harmless and meek as the dove.

II.

Like JESUS himself when a child,
With hearts as the pliable clay :
Well temper'd, and gentle, and mild,
They sport in their innocent play.

III.

Should ever their *anger* arise,
Yet never in *malice** they live :
While love is the spring of their joys,
They soon will forget and forgive.

F

* In malice be ye children. 1 Cor. xiv. 20.

IV.

But, O what a horrible fight,
When children with anger and rage,
Like lions will quarrel and fight,
While none can their anger assuage.

V.

Old Satan is then very nigh,
Delighted, that thus they have shewn
A murdering spirit: and why?
Because, 'tis akin to his own.

VI.

But blest is the peaceable heart,
There JESUS will make his abode;
Will more of his image impart,
And finally bring it to God.

H Y M N XXXIII.

AGAINST PRIDE IN DRESS.

Be ye clothed with humility. 2 PET. v. 5.

I.

ANGELS are happy, cloath'd with wings,
But our new clothes are dang'rous
things;
The child well dress'd, had need beware,
Left his fine raiment prove a snare.

II.

Adam in innocence attir'd,
Was lovely; yet not self-admir'd:
But we from garments, made to hide
Mis'ry and shame, can gather pride.

III.

A tatter'd coat were better far,
Than all the ornaments that are;
If sinners cannot e'en be neat,
But they must swell with self-conceit.

IV.

And what are children at the best,
But beggars charitably dress'd?
Poor little beggars, who receive
Nothing but what their parents give.

V.

But happy children, they whose dress
Is the Redeemer's righteousness;
E'er long in glory they shall shine,
Rob'd in that raiment all divine.



HYMN XXXIV.

AFTER RECEIVING COMMENDATION.

By the grace of God, I am what I am.

I COR. XV. 10.

I.

HELP me, LORD, to bless thy name,
 And thy glory to proclaim,
 That even me by nature base,
 Thou exaltest by thy grace.

II.

Am I prais'd, as if the good
 Were my own, by which I stood?
 Glory, honor, I resign,
 Take them, LORD, for they are thine.

III.

Bless my friends to whom I owe,
 All the little that I know :
 Ground of boast is not in me,
 Friends and all, are gifts from thee.

IV.

Strength or merit, I have none,
 Goodness is from God alone ;
 LORD, uphold me by thy hand :
 Only in thy strength I stand.

V.

Mercy still I humbly crave;
 Mercy still alone can save;
 Should thy mercy grant the crown,
 All the praise shall be thine own.

VI.

Every crown that shines above,
 Is alone thy gift of love:
 Millions cast them all before
 Thy bright throne, and thee adore.

H Y M N XXXV.

AFTER RECEIVING CORRECTION.

We have had fathers of our flesh, which corrected us, and we gave them reverence,
 HEB. xii. 9.

I.

LORD, I confess I am chastis'd
 Deservedly for sin;
 And all my evil actions flow
 From a vile heart within.

II.

And shall I let proud anger rise,
 Because I am reprov'd?
 No, rather let me grateful be
 That I am so lov'd.

III.

For not to please themselves at all,
 My parents cause me smart:
 They feel my sufferings more than I,
 Their pain is in their heart.

IV.

But, LORD, since I may come to thee,
 Thy mercy to obtain;
 And thou art ready to forgive,
 And smile on me again;

V.

To thee, O LORD, I therefore look,
 Thy pard'ning grace implore;
 O heal me, Savior, bid me live,
 And go, and sin no more.

H Y M N XXXVI.

THE LIFE OF CHRIST, EXPLAINED AND
 APPLIED, IN A DIALOGUE.

Learn of me, for I am meek and lowly of heart.

MATT. iv. 29.

I.

Q. WHY was the Savior born a child,
 Why was he always meek and
 mild?

A. That we to his example bow'd,
 Might never wrathful be, or proud.

II.

Q. Why did the LORD, while here below,
Obedience to his parents shew?

A. That we, with all our little pow'rs,
Might be obedient too to ours.

III.

Q. What lesson learn we, from the plan
Of CHRIST'S compassion shown to man?

A. To do his will, to seek his face,
For pard'ning love, and changing grace.

IV.

Q. Why did he sweat great drops of blood,
And bear the awful wrath of God?

A. To save us from the flames of Hell,
Where wicked souls for ever dwell.

V.

Q. Why did the precious JESUS bear,
The scourge of thorns, the painful spear?

A. That scourg'd and peirc'd, he might
obtain,
Freedom for us from endless pain.

VI.

Q. Why was he lifted up on high,
There on his cross to groan and die?

A. He dy'd because the law was just,
And had not he, the sinner must.

56 DIVINE HYMNS

VII.

Q. Why would the LORD resign his breath,
And pris'ner be, himself of death?

A. That in his grave our sins might lie,
And we might find it sweet to die.

VIII.

Q. The resurrection of the LORD,
What lesson does that theme afford?

A. That we should trust him in distress,
And rise ourselves to righteousness.

HYMN XXXVII.

ON THE PASSION of OUR LORD; OR,
A HYMN FOR GOOD-FRIDAY.

*In him we have redemption through his blood,
even the forgiveness of sins. COL. i. 14.*

I.

WHAT streams of love and pard'ning
blood,
Flow'd from the heart of CHRIST my GOD!
Then let me, dearest LORD, be thine,
Since I am bought by blood divine.

II.

How wonderful that CHRIST should die,
 For such a wretch so vile as I,
 Who could so soon a rebel rise
 Against the GOD that rules the skies.

III.

Hence, O my Savior, let me learn
 Sin's horrid nature to discern;
 Since nothing but thy precious blood,
 Could save me from the wrath of GOD.

IV.

What vast expence of love for me,
 That thou should'st die on Calvary!
 Thus die, to screen my guilty head
 From wrath, that else had struck me dead.

V.

Then take my body, spirit, soul,
 Dear JESUS, under thy controul;
 Since thou for me wouldst life resign,
 May I not be my own, but thine.



HYMN XXXVII.

A HYMN FOR SUNDAY SCHOOL CHILDREN.

Better is a poor and wise child, than an old and foolish king. ECCL. iv. 13.

I.

HEAR, LORD, the song of praise and
pray'r,

In heav'n thy dwelling place,
From infants, made the public care,
And taught to seek thy face!

II.

Thanks for thy Word, and for thy Day,
And grant us, we implore,
Never to waste in sinful play,
Thy holy sabbaths more.

III

Thanks that we hear—but Oh impart,
To each desires sincere,
That we may listen with our heart,
And learn, as well as hear.

IV.

For if vain thoughts the minds engage,
Of elder far than we :
What hope that at our heedless age,
Our minds shall e'er be free?

V.

Much hope, if thou our spirits take
 Under thy gracious sway,
 Who canst the wisest wiser, make
 And babes as wise as they.

VI.

Wisdom and bliss, thy word bestows,
 A sun tha ne'er declines ;
 And be thy mercies shower'd on those
 Who plac'd us where it shines.

H Y M N XXXVIII.

A CHRISTMAS HYMN.

*They shall call his name Immanuel, which being
 interpreted, is GOD with us, MATT. i. 23.*

I.

LET us all unite to bring
 Praises to our new born King ;
 Of his love and mercy tell,
 Who is our Immanuel.

II.

He was born, that we might know,
 God with us, the sons of woe ;
 God with us, the LORD we sing,
 Poor by birth, yet born a King.

III.

Hail! Immanuel, all divine,
Songs of loudest praise be thine:
Babes themselves shall hail thy birth,
Who for them didst dwell on earth.

IV.

Offspring of a Virgin's womb,
Thou didst once a child become!
Meekly in a manger lie,
Laying all thy glories by.

V.

Ah! was that the best abode
Cruel Jews could give their God!
How could Angels bear to see
Brutal creatures lodg'd with thee!

VI.

Hail! thou dearest, sweetest guest!
God the Savior, ever blest:
Sun, that shews the only way
To a bright eternal day.

VII.

All the poor, the halt, the blind,
In thine arms compassion find;
By a smile of thine restor'd,
Rise the dead, and praise the Lord.

HYMN XXXIX.

HEAVEN.

*In thy presence is fulness of joy, and at thy
right hand there are pleasures for evermore.*

PSALM xvi. 11.

I.

HOW bless'd the place of that abode
Where saints and angels dwell with God;
Where God the great Redeemer's grace,
Creates a heav'n thro' all the place.

II.

Dear LORD, vouchsafe to us, to know
A little of that heav'n below;
For joys resembling theirs above,
On earth are tasted in thy love.

III.

O how delightful then, the place
Where thou art seen, and face to face;
Where never cloud shall hide from sight
The beams of uncreated light.

IV.

How happy must our spirits be
While perfectly enjoying thee!
Nor other heav'n we wish or own,
For thou art heav'n, and thou alone.

G

V.

Hail, Father, Son, and Holy Ghost,
 Ador'd by all the heav'nly host !
 With rapture at thy feet they fall ;
 Thou art the heav'n that fills them all.

HYMN XL.

HELL.

In Hell he lift up his eyes in torment.
 LUKE xvi. 23.

I.

THERE is a pit beneath the grave,
 The same into which Satan fell ;
 God made it in his holy wrath,
 And call'd the horrid dungeon, Hell.

II.

There burns the everlasting flame,
 Kindled by his almighty breath ;
 And finners in that pit endure
 The vengeance of eternal death.

III.

O save us from the paths of sin,
 And let us feel thy pow'r betimes ;
 We beg thy grace to make us clean,
 And ask forgiveness of our crimes.

FOR CHILDREN. 63

IV.

Then shall our hearts delight in thee,
And of thy rich redemption tell,
Who didst for sinners bear the curse
That sinks the guilty down to Hell.

H Y M N XLI.

CHRIST OUR SHIELD AND GREAT REWARD.

*Fear not, I am thy shield, and exceeding great
reward. GEN. XV. I.*

I-

MY Savior and my friend,
Thou art my constant guard;
O be my refuge and defence,
My shield, and great reward.

II.

I am a helpless child,
An heir of woe and shame;
And but for thy redeeming blood,
Can nothing better claim.

III.

But magnify thy grace,
By saving one so mean:
And take me to thine arms of love;
And cleanse, and keep me clean.

IV.

Then shall old satan roar,
 But roar in vain for me;
 Be thou my shield, and great reward,
 And I shall live to thee.

HYMN XLII.

ON THE NEW BIRTH.

*Marvel not that I say unto you, ye must be born
 again. JOHN iii. 7.*

I.

ALL children are conceiv'd in sin,
 All prove themselves impure within;
 And all, each day that passes, shew
 How quick the seeds of evil grow.

II.

Satan attends to feed the flame,
 That lights them down to woe and shame,
 To fill them with contempt of God,
 And make them slight a Savior's blood.

III.

All, all alike would him obey,
 Following his steps the downward way;
 Did not the LORD to some impart
 His grace, that new-creates the heart.

IV.

Why seems it strange, that born so base,
We need regenerating grace;
Ah! how should creatures, blind as we,
The face of God in glory see.

V.

Seek Jesus—he alone can give
The grace by which a child must live.
All hope of heaven is false and vain,
None enter there, till born again.

H Y M N XLIII.

ON TRUE PRAYER.

Behold he prayeth. ACTS ix. II.

I.

WE never can be said to pray
From what our lips are saying;
But when our hearts and lips unite,
Then God beholds us praying.

II.

If a poor child can truly pray,
He knows he has no merit:
He humbly waits at mercy's door,
Among the poor in spirit.

III.

Sin is his grief, and while he weeps
 He has a blessed token,
 That God will ne'er reject the child
 Whose heart is truly broken.

IV.

Teach me, O LORD, how I shall pray,
 Like those whom thou approveſt;
 That I at length may join in praise
 With thoſe thou ever loveſt.

H Y M N XLIV.

ON THE DEATH OF GOOD CHILDREN
 WHO ARE GONE TO HEAVEN.

*They ſhall obtain joy and gladneſs, and ſorrow
 and ſighing ſhall flee away. ISA. XXXV. 10.*

I.

HAPPY the children, who are gone
 To live with JESUS CHRIST, in peace;
 Who ſtand around his glorious throne,
 Redeem'd by blood, and fav'd by grace.

II.

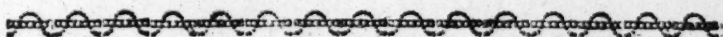
The Savior, whom they lov'd below,
 Hath kindly wip'd their tears away;
 No ſin, no ſorrow there they know,
 But baſk in one eternal day.

III.

There to their golden harps they sing,
While tens of thousands join their songs;
Hosanna to th' immortal King,
To whom immortal praise belongs.

IV.

O dearest LORD, and when shall we
Be brought with them, in blifs to join,
Thy lovely countenance to see,
And sing thy mercies all divine!



GRACE BEFORE MEALS.

BY the bounty alone of our Savi^{or} we live;
Ador'd be his name, for the food we receive;
But, O may our spirits be graciously led
To feed on himself—He is heavenly bread.

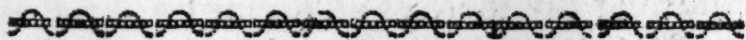
GRACE AFTER MEALS.

I.

THE beasts of the field, and the birds
of the air,
Are kept by thy power, and fed by thy care;
Thy merciful providence faithfully nigh,
Sustains the poor ravens whenever they cry.

II.

But they cannot praise thee, they know not
 from whom
 The stream that they drink, and their
 sustenance come ;
 Far wiser may we be, and thankfully own
 That all our supplies are from JESUS alone.



DOXOLOGIES.

PRAISE GOD, from whom all blessings flow;
 Praise him, all creatures here below ;
 Praise him above, ye heav'nly host ;
 Praise FATHER, SON, and HOLY GHOST..

SING we to our GOD above,
 Praise eternal as his love :
 Praise him, all ye heav'nly host,
 Praise FATHER, SON, and HOLY GHOST..

LET GOD the FATHER, and the SON,
 And SPIRIT be ador'd,
 Where there are works to make him known,
 Or saints to love the LORD.

A SONNET OF INSTRUCTION.

Parents and Guardians of Children, are requested to remember that the SONNET OF INSTRUCTION is written with a Design that Children may be INSTRUCTED. What is learned merely by rote, does them no good. A JUDICIOUS INSTRUCTOR will explain the first Part; and, having made that a kind subject of conversation, will give them some little gratuity, and teach them the second Part, as a reward for their former attention.

I.

HOW good is the LORD, how kind is his love!
That we thro' his providence, happily prove.
To be the bless'd children indulged to know
The merciful paths he would have us to go.

II

Of nothing but sin, we are warn'd to beware,
Invented by Satan for us as a snare;
His snare may we hate, and escape from the lie,
Lest taken by him, we eternally die.

III.

Instructed in all the commandments of God,
May we never depart from the heavenly road,
Till led to the arms of the Savior on high,
We find in his presence the fulness of joy.

IV.

But ah! the poor children, how wretched are they,
Who led from the holy commandment astray;
His work in their infancy blindly begin,
Who pays only death for the service of sin.

V.

How soon will a child learn to curse and to swear,
Who runs with delight to a mob or a fair;
Where riotous drunkards and swearers are found,
In anger they rage, and in madness abound.

VI.

But tempers like these, have a sorrowful end,
And lead us to mischiefs that nothing can mend;
Hence horrible fightings, and shedding of blood,
And murder that cries for the vengeance of God.

VII.

How frightful to see a man chang'd to a beast,
Reeling into the streets from a gluttonous feast;
He his up, he is down, he stands only to fall;
And is either the jest, or abhorrence of all.

OF INSTRUCTION. 71

VIII.

In cards, and in dice, at a dance or a play,
Some murder their time, and turn night into day;
No time for a prayer can they ever afford!
No time for a song of sweet praise to the LORD!

IX.

The Butterfly spreads all his hues to the day,
The Peacock his plumage delights to display;
So many are proud of the trappings they wear,
And live but to glitter at vanity fair *.

X.

No vanity fair may we ever attend :
But, O! let thy grace and thy mercy defend
Our eyes from beholding the sight that beguiles
Our hearts from the world and its treacherous smiles.

XI.

Then thanks to our parents, who keep us away
From paths in which thousands so fatally stray;
Who guard us in innocence while we are young,
From fights that are sinful, and ways that are wrong.

* Borrowed from Bunyan's Pilgrim's Progress, a book well calculated for the entertainment of children, and instruction of all.

PART II.

I.

THEN is a poor child to be silent all day,
 At so sprightly an age, is it sin to be gay?
 Are none but the thoughtless and vain to be glad,
 And only the righteous condemn'd to be sad?

II.

No, praise to the LORD, he will give us to know
 Far sweeter delights than the world can bestow;
 A sense of forgiveness, a sense of his love,
 A foretaste of rivers of pleasures above.

III.

We bless the kind hand that conducts us abroad,
 To taste of the pleasures that lead us to God;
 To walk in the garden, there read of his power
 And wisdom imprinted on each pretty flower.

IV.

We next walk abroad in the fields to behold
 How shepherds delight to attend on the fold:
 We too, we will say, have a shepherd, and thus
 The keeper of Israel, is careful for us.

OF INSTRUCTION. 73

V.

Devoted in spirit alone unto thee,
As lambs of thy flock, holy Shepherd, may we
From such precious lessons thy mercy improve,
There see of thy goodness, and sing of thy love.

VI.

The innocent Lamb, and the frolicksome Fawn,
In their pretty gambols, bound over the lawn;
An emblem of innocence sweetly set forth,
While nothing but love is the spring of their mirth.

VII.

Like them, we may chearfully frolic and play,
If we are as gentle and harmless as they;
Then let us, dear LORD, such a paradise prove,
Where Lions and Lambs could each frolic in love.

VIII.

But when from the forest, the Lion, or Bear,
The Wolf, or the Leopard, can cruelly tear
The frolicksome Fawn and the innocent Lamb,
We read in their cruelty, we are to blame.

IX.

No, Eagle or Vulture, or barbarous Kite,
Had taken the air for a ravenous flight
To chace the poor Dove, if vile sin had not drove
Our God from the earth, which he govern'd by love.

X.

Then may we be taught, whensoever we behold
 The poor little Lamb, torn away from the fold,
 That ne'er had the earth been defiled with blood,
 If man had not been in rebellion with God.

XI.

Ah! then what a monster that child must appear,
 Who rages and tears like a Lion or Bear;
 He fights, and will fight, till his anger and rage.
 A merciful Jesus steps in to assuage.

XII.

Then holy Redeemer, preserve us, we pray,
 That anger may never arise in our play;
 O may we be made by thy spirit of love,
 As meek as the Lamb, and as mild as the Dove!

XIII.

There is nothing but sin that can sadden the heart:
 Thy grace to renew us, dear Jesus! impart,
 That here while on earth, we may tell of thy love
 Till call'd to adore thee with angels above.

6 SE 55



